

PRESS RELEASE

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published on the occasion of the signing
of the protocols adapting the free trade
agreements between the Community and the EFTA countries
as a result of enlargement

1. The additional protocols to the free trade agreements between the Community and the EFTA countries consequent upon the accession of Spain and Portugal to the Community were signed in Brussels on 14 July 1986.

These protocols were signed :

- for the European Community by :
 - H.E. Sir David HANNAY, Ambassador of the United Kingdom and Chairman of the Permanent Representatives Committee
 - Mr. Gianluigi GIOLA, Deputy Director General for External Relations at the Commission
- in the case of the EFTA countries :
 - for Austria by : H.E. Ambassador Manfred SCHEICH
 - for Finland by : H.E. Ambassador Leif BLOMQVIST
 - for Iceland by : H.E. Ambassador Tómas A. TÓMASSON
 - for Norway by : H.E. Ambassador Christian BERG-NIELSEN
 - for Sweden by : H.E. Ambassador Stig BRATTSTRÖM
 - for Switzerland by : H.E. Ambassador Carlo JAGMETTI

2. The additional protocols to the agreements between the Member States of the ECSC and the EFTA countries were also signed.
In the case of the Member States, the protocols were signed :

- for Belgium by: H.E. Ambassador Paul NOTERDAEME
- for Denmark by: H.E. Ambassador Jakob Esper LARSEN
- for Germany by: H.E. Ambassador Werner UNGERER
- for Greece by: H.E. Ambassador Constantinos LYBEROPOULOS
- for Spain by: H.E. Ambassador Carlos WESTENDORP Y CABEZA
- for France by: H.E. Ambassador François SCHEER
- for Ireland by: H.E. Ambassador John CAMPBELL
- for Italy by: H.E. Ambassador Pietro CALAMIA
- for Luxembourg by: Deputy Permanent Representative Mr Jean FEYDER
- for the Netherlands by: H.E. Ambassador M.H.J.Ch. RUTTEN
- for Portugal by : H.E. Ambassador Leonardo MATHIAS
- for the United Kingdom by: H.E. Ambassador Sir David HANNAY

The additional protocol to the agreement between the Member States of the ECSC and Switzerland was also signed by Mr. Benno BECK, Head of the Office of Economic Affairs, for the Principality of Liechtenstein.

3. Furthermore, exchanges of letters were signed, concerning :

- non-agricultural products and processed agricultural products not covered by the free trade agreements, and
- agricultural and fish products.

4. The texts which have been signed bring about the adaptation of relations between the Community and the EFTA countries following the enlargement.

As far as industrial products are concerned, the additional protocols to the free trade agreements and the agreements concluded between the ECSC and the EFTA countries will ensure the harmonious and progressive application of the free trade agreements by and to Spain and Portugal. To that end, the protocols provide for the same transitional arrangements between the two new Member States of the Community and the EFTA countries as those that exist between the latter and the Community of Ten, in particular as regards the dismantling of customs tariffs, tariff quotas and quantitative restrictions.

For agricultural and fish products, the effect of the exchanges of letters will be to preserve, in a Community context, the level of trade liberalization attained between the EFTA countries, on the one hand, and Spain and Portugal, on the other.
